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CERRITO 73 - MONTEVIDEO

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Prof. Joshua Lederberg, Ph.D.  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison 6, Wisconsin  
Genetics Building.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am very pleased firstly to congratulate you for the Nobel prize you have been awarded. I feel also I have to apologize to you for taking part of your time with my questions and requests.

Once more I would like to have your comments about my unsuccessful trials on "Transduction in bacteria". In my country I am about the only one working in that field so your advices are most valuable to me.

I am following this technique:

- 1) Inoculation of Salmonella typhimurium TM2 y SW1213 in broth.
- 2) Incubation during 48 hrs at 37°C.
- 3) Centrifugation during 1 hour to 1 hour and half (2800r.p.m.)
- 4) The overflowing is treated in double boiler for 30 minutes at 60°C.
- 5) Test in Petri dish: S. enteritidis is spread and it is permitted to dry for five minutes; b) one drop of overflowing substance is placed on the center of the spreading of S. enteritidis; c) the Petri is heat treated at 37°C during 4 to 6 hours; d) then it is taken to the ice-box; e) next day it is taken back to the stove at 37°C during 4-6 hours.

So far, we got negative results.

I have tried also to add the overflowing of the TM2 y SW1213 to S. enteritidis following the same technique since the beginning of inoculation in broth with the same negative result. I suspect that the centrifugation is done in a very low number of revolutions per minute



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and I have not been able to find out the optimum number of revolutions in the literature I have read. I must tell you that the centrifuge used is the only one available so far.

Would you be so kind as to write me your comments about the work I have done and advise me any change in techniques you consider worth to try?

Thanking you very much in advance, I remain

Yours sincerely